



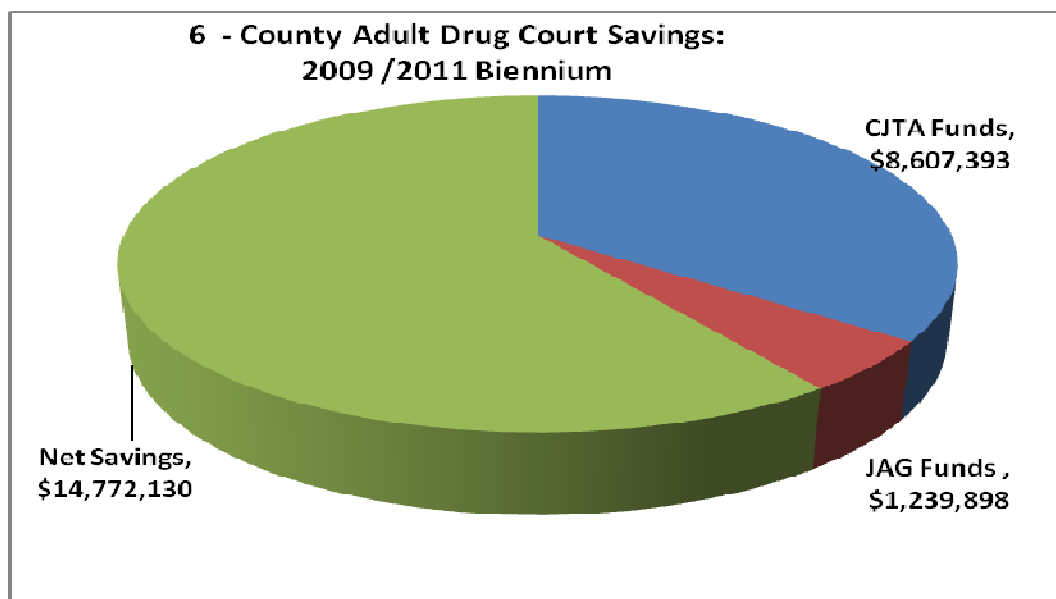
Drug Courts Save Money

Drug courts across Washington offer an alternative to incarceration that works to both reduce the revolving door for people with chemical dependency and effectively target spending to produce net savings for the state.

A brief survey of just six adult drug courts in Clark, Cowlitz, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Thurston counties shows a 150% return on the state's investment in the 2009-11 biennium.

In these courts, 300 men and women faced a collective 742 years in prison (mid-range sentence if convicted). At \$79.03 per day for men and \$115.56 per day for women, that would have cost the state more than \$24.6 million dollars.

Instead, the state's relatively modest \$9.8 million investment in these six adult drug courts produced a net savings of nearly \$14.8 million in avoided prison costs.



Please continue to invest in Drug Courts – both to save money and to save lives.

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The Washington State Association of Drug Court Professionals is committed and dedicated to furthering the Drug Courts and Therapeutic Specialty Court model in the State of Washington. The WSADCP is committed to doing this through education and advocacy throughout the state of Washington. Drug Courts link the courts, criminal justice and treatment to improve accountability by treating non-violent substance abusing offenders making the community a safer place to live.